ERNAKULAM, ROADS, ETC.—ARTICLE IN THE "SAHODARAN"

81. Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* Will Government be pleased to state whether they have not seen the following articles in the "സഹോദരൻ" dated 26th June 1943 on page 3;

(1) എറണാകുളം റോഡുകൾ;

(2) ഗൈസ് ഹൈസ്കൂൾ കെട്ടിടം ?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* Yes.

BOATS, CAPSIZING OF

82. Mr. L. M. Pylee *(Ernakulam-Latin-Christians):* Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) the number of boats that capsized in the vicinity of the Willingdon Island during the storm on the morning of Saturday, June 19th;

(*b*) the approximate number of men and women in such boats and whether they were labourers going to the Willingdon Island for work;

(*c*) the number of persons drowned;

(*d*) the number of persons picked up from the water;

(*e*) whether Government agencies like the Canal authorities, etc., were about to render any immediate help on the occasion;

(*f*) whether Government have ascertained by proper enquiry the number of men and women missing on account of this accident ?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* (*a*) Five.

(*b*) No information about the number. They were labourers.

(*c*) About 9.

(*d*) About 30.

(*e*) Yes.

(*f*) The Canal Superintendent, Mattancheri, conducted an enquiry in the matter immediately.

STORING OF WATER IN KOLE LANDS—COMPENSATION FOR

83. Mr. M. Krishna Menon *(Trichur-North):* Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) whether, north of Mullurkayal road in the Tholur Village, Trichur Taluk, water has been stored in kole lands;

(*b*) any compensation granted as yet ?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* (*a*) Some of the deep kole lands in the Tholur, Edakolathur, Anjur, Peramangalam and Chittilappilli Villages were utilised for the purpose of storing water for the benefit of a large area of kole lands.

(*b*) Compensation will be paid to the owners of the lands so temporarily occupied.

At 12-30 the Hon'ble President left Chair and the Deputy President presided.

CUT MOTION No. 36

Ad hoc Committee to go into the question of private irrigation systems in Chittur Taluk

Mr. T. S. Ramachandra Ayyar *(Chittur-Tattamangalam): To reduce the allotment of Rs. 26,260 for establishment by Rs. 2.*

The object of the cut motion is *to discuss the desirability of setting up an ad hoc committee to go into the question of acquiring the private irrigation systems in the Chittur Taluk and to frame proposals for the acceptance of the Government.* The various irrigation systems of the Chittur Taluk have been benefiting a good number of people, but the ryots who have been the beneficiaries under the existing system have been subject to the vagaries of the owners thereof. If the Government acquires the rights of these owners, a large number of ryots will be benefited, Sir. For one thing, they will be free from the vagaries of these owners. In the case of several of these systems, there is scope for much improvement, so much so, the usefulness of several of these can be enlarged and that will certainly be in line with the food production drive that the Government is committed to now. But as there are various systems and each system has got its own particular, peculiar, problems, I think the Government will do well to set up a committee,

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so much so obligations arising out of such acquisitions can be minimised. I do not stress the committee, Sir, but I only want the systems to be acquired by the Government. If the Government would appoint an officer to go into this question in detail and proceed with the acquisition, I will be quite satisfied. I request the House to support the motion.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon *(Chittur-Rural)*: Is this under the consideration of the Government?

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: I wish to know Sir, by way of information approximately the number of acres benefited by the various irrigation systems in Chittur.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer)*: Sir, about this time.....

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: Sir, if this is the Government reply, it may be kindly delayed. My question may be answered.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer)*: There are 12 irrigation systems in Chittur and they jointly irrigate 2116 acres of double crop and 775 acres of single crop.

Mr. Joseph Pettah *(Adur)*: Has any of these systems been already acquired ?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer)*: Not any of these systems now.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: Mr. President, The Hon'ble mover of this cut motion has brought to the notice of the House, though not by mentioning that, the existence of vagaries on the part of those private owners of these irrigation systems. I take from that the vagaries exist, when it comes from the Hon'ble Member for Tattamangalam, who is very conversant with the various systems. We have to accept his words, unless of course Government will satisfy the House that absolutely no vagaries exist on the part of these owners and on that count the tenants and the ryots are not suffering. Till then the House will be justified in thinking that the assertion made by the Hon'ble Member is perfectly true. If that is so, irrigation systems being absolutely necessary for cultivation purposes in those areas, anything that will be useful to do away with the vagaries on the part of these onwners must be looked into and acted upon by the Government. Vagaries are natural. The owner will try to get as much as is possible from the ryot and give unto him as less as possible. That is human nature. Now we cannot improve human nature. That has to be improved by oneself. That is impossible in this particular instance. Viewing the thing from a practical standpoint, taking as the basis of the necessity, the assertion made by the Hon'ble Mover that vagaries exist, I would request that the Government may be pleased to go into the question and do something, and do what is absolutely necessary by the side of the ryot to get him water and free him from the difficulties complained of by the Hon'ble Member for Thattamangalam.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer)*: We are considering the question.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon *(Chittur-Rural)*: They said they are considering.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: Even that is not sufficient to silence me, even though it may be pleasing to the Hon'ble Member for Chittur. I know the method of consideration usually conducted by the Government of Cochin. With that knowledge in me I want the Government to assure the house definitely that they will go into the question. They are going into the question. They will sympathetically consider it and come to a conclusion beneficial to the ryot. Till then I will be pressing through this cut and request my Hon'ble friend not to withdraw the cut, but to press it, so that if they are not considering, they may be forced to consider it, if they are considering already, it may accelerate to the benefit of the tenant. That is the reason, Sir, why I took part in the discussion.

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar)*: The matter is being seriously considered by the Government. For the information of the House, I may say, that the Chief Engineer and myself went and camped at the place for 4 days and inspected all the important works, heard the ryots locally and in our camp, and considered the matter. We have submitted our report and the Government are very seriously considering it. It is not right to say that all systems are badly managed. There are systems in which there are complaints and there are systems in which there are no complaints.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: I am so glad that there are exceptions.

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar)*: Just as the Hon'ble Member said persons who want to give little and take more, there is the other way also. There are persons who do not want to pay and who at the same time went to get water.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: Hence the necessity for the Government to interfere.

Mr. T. S. Ramachandra Ayyar *(Chittur-Tattamangalam)*: Are the Government aware that several of these systems can be made more useful ?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar)*: That is one of the things that we found on investigation. We think at present that there are some methods of improvement, by which

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some of these can be combined together and distribution more regularised. They can be made more beneficial, in some cases, not in all cases.

Mr. Joseph Pettah *(Adur)* : My Hon'ble friend for Vadakkancheri said he was supporting the motion because vagaries exist. On that point of course I support. Even apart from that, on a matter of principle, I would support this cut motion, because the matter of irrigation is a public utility which affects very many people and it is in the fitness of things that the possession of such public utilities should be by the Government and not by any private parties. Because it is of such vital importance in the matter of promoting agriculture in the State. So it is not good therefore that such public utilities should be in the possession of private hands. Now the Government are seriously considering the matter. More so, this is an occasion when it would be proper for this House to express on that matter so that the Government may consider the opinion of the House and come to a decision. For that purpose, I support this motion.

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar)* : I do not think that it is necessary to put this cut motion to vote because the matter is being very seriously considered.

Mr. Joseph Pettah *(Adur)*: But then the definite opinion of the House can be expressed by passing this cut, though the matter has been accepted by the Government.

Mr. T. S. Ramachandra Ayyar *(Chittur-Tattamangalam)* : I am thankful to the Government, but I request the Government to expedite matters. I would also request the Diwan Peishkar and the Chief Engineer to submit their report as early as possible.

Mr. A. Madhva Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar)* : We have already submitted it.

Mr. T. S. Ramachandra Ayyar *(Chittur-Tattamangalam)* : Can you please place that report on the table of the House tomorrow?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar)* : I am sorry, it is only in the consideration stage.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)* : We are so glad of your quickness.

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar)* : We did not delay at all in this matter. We gave precedence to this matter; we cancelled most of our programme and the very next week after getting the order, we went and camped there for a number of days and made out our report.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)* : All glory!

Mr. T. S. Ramachandra Ayyar *(Chittur-Tattamangalam)* : I do not press the motion.

Cut Motion. by leave, withdrawn

CUT MOTION No. 37

Mulathura Irrigation System—extending of

Mr. T. S. Ramachandra Ayyar *(Chittur-Tattamangalam). To reduce the allotment of Rs. 26,260 for Establishment by Rs. 2.* The object of the motion is to stress the desirability of extending the Mulathura Irrigation system in the Chittur Taluk.

By moving this, I am pressing for the extension of this Mulathura system so that the ryots who stand to benefit by the proposed extension may be placed on the same footing as the present beneficiaries. I shall explain, Sir. The difficulties which stand in the way of the Government are quite well-known to me, for example, it requires a lot of correspondence with the British Government, and the British authorities may most probably disallow any such extension. Such difficulties I know, but the ryots who stand to benefit by the proposed extension, they will be quite satisfied if they get water, if the private reservoirs are filled during the months when there is plenty of water in the Chittur river. So much so, I think the Government can very easily satisfy the British authorities and carry on the extension, but give water to the ryots on the definite understanding that water will be supplied to them only during the months when there is plenty of water in the river. My point is water is required mostly to water the second crop and not the first crop. Usually in all years, during the months of Chingam, Kanni and Thulam, there is plenty of water in the river. Only in Vrischigam and Dhanu the water dries up in the river and if during Kanni and Thulam these people are allowed to fill their reservoirs they can raise very successfully a second crop. The success of the second crop is very problematical there. If they are given water in Kanni and Thulam, the success of the second crop is guaranteed. On these lines, the Government will do well to correspond with the British authorities, get their permission and extend the irrigation system, but particularly on this understanding that they will give the ryots water only in Kanni and Thulam, in which case there will be absolutely no difficulty.

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